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SECRET/NOFORN/CONTINUED CONTROL

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CURRENT SUPPORT BRIEF

FURTHER CORROBORATION OF SOVIET SUBMARINE-MISSILE CAPABILITY

OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND REPORTS

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

This report represents the immediate views of the originating intelligence components of the Office of Research and Reports. Comments are solicited.

W-A-R-N-I-N-G

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FURTHER CORROBORATION OF SOVIET SUBMARINE MISSILE CAPABILITY

Two sightings of Soviet G-class ballistic missile submarines (SSB) within the last six months have provided the first actual observations of what are probably missile tubes and possibly missiles on these submarines and confirm earlier estimates of their missile capability. It is probable that the Soviets have now deployed 15 G-class SSB's armed with three 150 or 350 n.m. ballistic, or possibly cruise-type, missiles. 25X1B

On 7 April 1961 a G-class SSB, [redacted] was observed at the Rosta Shipyard, USSR with what probably was a missile tube extended from the conning tower.1/ The tube was held by four supporting rectangular members which possibly serve as hydraulic lifts indicative that the missiles may be launched from a sail awash position. Characteristics of the sail with respect to arrangement and dimensions of component parts indicate that the submarine had three launching tubes. 25X1B

25X1B

On 20 July 1961 three Soviet G-class SSB's, [redacted] were observed near Hammerfest, Norway each reportedly with a missile in a raised position approximately two-thirds of the way aft in the conning tower.2/ The missiles reportedly protruded vertically and the length exposed was equal to the height of the top of the conning tower above the casing. The top third of each missile was black and appeared to have a number of vertical ribs or vanes. The lower two-thirds was white. The missiles remained exposed during the two hours the submarines were under observation.

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Analyst: [redacted]

Coord :

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Sources: 1. USN PIC 620/61-S, USSR "G" class SSB Missile Compartment, 19 July 61. SECRET

2. [redacted]

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